OLD RAWSONVILLE VILLAGE
Rawsonville, now a ghost town, was once a thriving village. On September 13, 1823, the first land patent in Van Buren Township was given to Henry Snow for this site, which was soon known as Snow's Landing. Called Rawsonville by 1838, the community reached its peak around the time of the Civil War. It then boasted sawmills, grist mills, two cooper shops, a stove factory, several drygoods and general stores, a wagon maker and three saloons. Rawsonville's failure to attract railroad service led to its decline. By the 1880s many of its businesses and mills had closed and its residents were moving away. In 1925 a dam erected on the Huron River covered most of the remaining structures with the newly-formed Belleville Lake.

Press photo by Dennis Dunleavy

OCT 14 1985

An historical occasion

A historical marker for the old Village of Rawsonville was dedicated Sunday in special ceremonies, at which former Gov. John B. Swainson, now head of the state historic commission, presided. The town, founded in 1823, peaked in population during the Civil War before dying in 1925 when a dam put most of the village under Belleville Lake. Other guests at the dedicatio included state Rep. James Kosteva, D-Canton Township; local historian Diane Wilson, Cub Scout Troop 243 and the Belleville High School Band and Ambassador Chorale.

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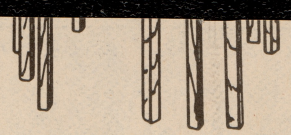

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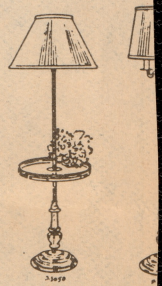

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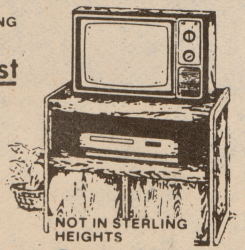

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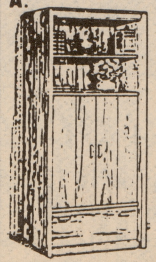

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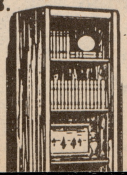

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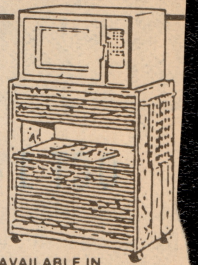
B. Open library unit



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